

# SHAVINGS, SAWDUST and SPLINTERS

April 2002

## JOHN B. STETSON, THE HAT MAKER

### Compiled by Grace Jenkins Goss

John B. Stetson, born in 1828, learned the hat making trade at an early age from his father, a highly respected hat maker of Philadelphia.

When John contracted 'consumption' he traveled west for the cure. He first ended up in St. Louis, Missouri, becoming a part owner in a brick making factory. The factory was destroyed by a major flood. He then tried to enlist in the militia, but was refused. Stetson soon hooked up with a gold seeking group and headed further west. During this all-weather 'outdoor' time he designed a wide rimmed hat that later became the famous *Boss of the Plains*.

With his consumption cured, he returned to Philadelphia. Stetson established his own plant making wide rim hats known by all as cowboy hats. Although, the cowboy hat is best associated with the Stetson name, the company produced a variety of hats including the bowler/derby, fedora, straw boaters, women and military.

John B. Stetson was a most generous man. He hired many apprentices. John felt that good work skills made good respectable men. He provided many benefits including reasonable priced housing, hospital, schools and a social and religious center.

In honor of those who died from mad hatter's disease, caused by using mercury in the treatment of skins for the hat industry, he added a bow to the inside of the hat band. Many believe this is to tell which is the front or back of a hat. The truth is that upon a quick glance of the bow, it should look like the skull and crossbones, the poison symbol.

The John B. Stetson business was completely self operational. No work was contracted out. He had his own paper and printing plant which made everything from invoices to hat boxes. A straw producing facility as well as the leather works were among the company's domain. It is a fact that the worn wood hat block forms were recycled as firewood for the furnaces. It is a rare find to locate a Stetson worn wood hat block form.

After his death, at age 78, the family took over the business. During WWI, sales plummeted due to the lack of availability and cost of furs. This was caused by the use of fur trims in the women's fashion trades. The great depression, changing life styles and the intervention of the worker's union were other causes that the Stetson Company had to adjust working conditions.

During the great depression era however, sales of the derby/bowler hat increased. Men thought this style of hat radiated security. Salesman noted the personalities of how the men wore their derbies - tilted, back, straight up or down covering part of their forehead. The fashionable derby hat again caused sales to surge in England, during the 1960s.

Today, the Stetson name is leased to manufactures making hats, western design clothing, home accessories and perfumes. The conglomerate management plans to open world-wide 'alone' standing facilities selling western style everything.

The traditional hat industry had its hey day. The # 1 seller today is the baseball cap. Will style repeat itself I hope so!

This was from a talk given to the Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors to enhance a display of several hats, hat boxes, hat sizers, rim cutters and wooden hat blocks.

### In This Issue

- The Stetson Company
- Colorado meeting recaps
- New Mexico meeting recaps
- New Members
- Tool Collecting on eBay
- Book Reviews
- Classifieds
- Upcoming Events

## The Editor's Ramblings

It is about time I put this issue to bed. I've become quite a procrastinator as time goes on. I put off taxes until the last minute and put off the Shavings until it is almost May. Heck, I even wait until the morning of the tool meets to put the meager collection I have together to try and come up with a table for sales. Consequently, I'm more of a buyer than a seller. I really need to change that!

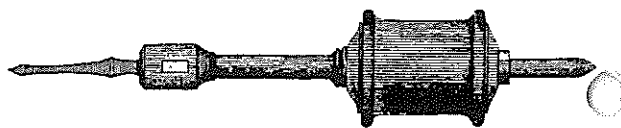
I get newsletters from other clubs around the country and even Canada. There are lots of interesting articles about the goings on elsewhere. Some of the items that really come in handy though are the different activities – both meetings, tool sales and auctions. I try to find something going on within a reasonable proximity to where my business travels take me. You meet new friends and get to see some fabulous collections. I've included a list of some of the activities around the country later in the issue.

Speaking of the other newsletters that I'm on the exchange list for, there is a common theme from the editors. They/we are always looking for articles to put in the papers. There is only so much creativity we have without tapping the ideas of our fellow members. If you have an idea of a topic you would like to see, maybe you've done some research on something in your collection, or even if you want to act like a travel writer and write something about a trip to a big tool show, I'd love to have it. The articles or pictures could be in one of the future issues of the Shavings.

I want to thank Steve Butti for all the help he has given me over the years I've been doing the Shavings and also putting out the Colorado area meeting notices. Steve has kept the RMTC database that is used for the mailing labels and the directory. He's been doing this as long as I can remember and has always been most helpful getting me the information I need. I end up calling him at the last minute to get the list for labels or inserts and he always comes through. We all need to say a prayer for Steve and hope for the best.

Hope to see you around. Happy collecting

- Dan Kimpton



## SHAVINGS, SAWDUST & SPLINTERS

Published by the Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors – Three times a year or whenever we get around to it.

Editor: Dan Kimpton

### 2002 OFFICERS

President: John Gilmore

Vice President: Don Hodge

Secretary: Cliff Fales

Treasurer: Grace Goss

### BOARD MEMBERS

Dave Fessler

Bill Morrison

Bob Finch

### Writers & Contributors:

John Gilmore, Dan Kimpton,

Grace Goss, Jamie Swan

Bill Morrison, Jason Fink

Internet Web Site:

[www.rmte.org](http://www.rmte.org)

Webmaster:

Peter Berglund (303) 741-3158

### Send material for publication to:

Dan Kimpton

7498 So. Glencoe Ct.

Centennial, CO 80122

[kimpton@uswestmail.net](mailto:kimpton@uswestmail.net)

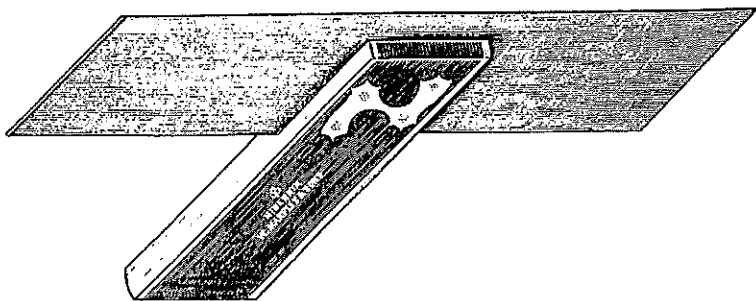
### Send membership applications, renewals and changes of address, etc. to:

Grace Goss, Treasurer, RMTC

229 S.E. 22<sup>nd</sup> St., Derby Hill

Loveland, CO 80537

[mailto:john-goss@excite.com](mailto:mailto:john-goss@excite.com)



## From the President

### What's New:

The last RMTC board meeting the main topic of discussion was what to do about the club bank account. Seems it is being spent faster than money coming in. Not that we have a problem just yet, our funds are in very good shape. But the fact remains that we are spending more than we are taking in. Should we raise the dues, have special fund raisers, cut costs on mailing & use email where possible, or some other avenues to increase the bank account. For now, we've decided not to change the dues rate. We did add a raffle to our monthly meeting. We will have one tool to raffle off at each monthly meeting with the proceeds going to the club. We cleared \$45 on the plane at the meet at Red Rocks which paid for the host snack stipend. You never know, it might be your turn to win the raffle at the next meeting! This idea was offered up by Dave Fessler from our New Mexico contingent. They have done this for some time. The auctions offered for members to rid themselves of up to 25 lots that don't fit their collecting needs or are duplicates have been fairly successful. We've raised the fee for the club for these auctions to 10% for members and 15% for non-members. Remember, you can still put up to 3 items in the members auction without a club fee. For these, the member gets one bid to save their tool if the bidding is too low. If you want to get on the list for future sales, please let me know.

### Estate Auction:

Estate auctions for members who have passed continues to be a free service the club provides for the spouses. We encourage you to explain this to your spouse so they don't have to worry what to do with all the tools if anything happens to you.

### Future Tool Sales:

May 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a tool sale held in the Woodcraft parking lot. This tool sale will be advertised in their bi-monthly newsletter. They wanted to have some of their suppliers there also. Again, this will be a good place to get rid of unneeded items. They are located at 4403 S. Tamarac Parkway, just east of corner of I-225 and I-25. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The phone number for Woodcraft is (303) 290-0007.

### Get Well for Friends:

I'm afraid I'll miss some of you and for that I apologize. If I do, please let us know so we can see if we can be of any help. John Goss is still fighting what seems an uphill battle. Lucy Parks and Vic Smith have been having problems. King Herrington is recovering from a knee replacement. Doc Loyd's wife recently passed

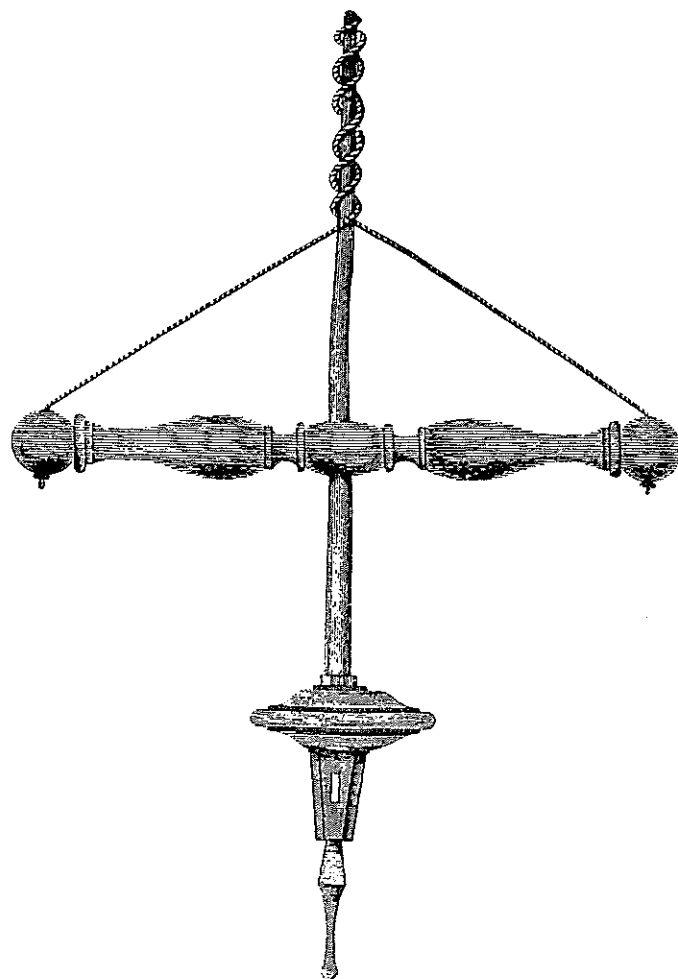
away. Steve Butti has been quite ill. We wish these folks a quick recovery.

### Thanks to Steve Butti:

We owe a big RMTC thanks to Steve Butti who has had to resign his duties due to his health problems. He served as Vice President of the club last term. Steve has served the club in a number of capacities including being the web master and keeping the membership database and producing the directories. Thanks for all your good work! Grace & John Goss have taken over the directory and web master responsibilities.

Happy tool hunting.

John Gilmore





## January Colorado Area Meeting

**Seventh Day Adventist Church, Arvada**

January 6<sup>th</sup> by Bill Morrison

We met inside this cavernous venue even though the weather was nice for January. There is always lots of room and it is well lit. The use of the kitchen area is a plus. The hosts for the January meeting were Don Sharp, Sam Wells, Greg Mikulewicz, Mike Liebman and myself. Once again, the wives did all the work.

As always, there was great food. Note: Since Greg Mikulewicz is moving (someday) to Nevada, he gave up the secret of those great sausages he has brought for several years. He buys them at:

European Delights  
8440 W. Colfax Ave. (at Carr)  
Lakewood, CO (303) 237-5655

There were between 80 – 100 people in attendance according to Grace Goss and the others who handed out badges and generally tried to maintain order. Three new members signed up at the meeting:

Robert Brown of Englewood  
J.B. Bobet of Lakewood  
Bill Hunter of Lakewood

Following a short business meeting, several members were persuaded to talk about their 'favorite tool'. Don Biays talked about a pattern makers' plane. Charlie Wright spoke on wooden planes and a Davis level. Bob Finch had a host of oddball saws, and finally, Charles Aumiller showed a printers' rule.

Many members had displays and they included some fine ones. Dennis Scheel had a fine visual display of "Making a Barrel Head". Included were different tools and a wicked looking 'Bung Chain'. Bob Finch's display of oddball saws was a typically outstanding Finch display of tools from around the world. Don Burd showed some of his new finds. Charles Aumiller had a display of Printer's tools and odds & ends. Charlie Wright had a Davis level and various wooden planes. Cliff Fales showed some English Rules with Square Legs. John Gilmore had a display of tool motif tie clips.

The tool auction had lots of tools! As usual, it was conducted flawlessly by Miller, Finch and Scruggs (great name for a rock band or law firm). Sellers were convinced that tools went cheap – most buyers disagreed.

## December New Mexico Area Meeting

**Jason Fink & Tracy Clark's House, Albuquerque**

by Jason Fink

The December RMTC meeting was held at my house this year. Even so, do you think I could get someone else to cut me some slack and do the meeting write-up? Nope! I remember way back in 1998 when Cliff saddled up to me at the Annual Meeting and suggested that I do a Albuquerque meeting write "every once in awhile". Soon after, it seems that Mr. McDougall lost his pen, or perhaps traded it for some kinda ebony tooth extraction tool. So saddled with the responsibility of the being the New Mexico scribe, I am not afraid to say that the December meeting was a blast, and it was great to have everyone in my recently expanded abode. 15 members were present as well as Doug Strech's father-in-law, Frank, as a welcome guest.

The meeting started, as they always do with mingling, tool tables and beverages. My small shop quickly filled up until someone broke out the chocolate chip cookies, but it was only a matter of minutes before folks came back in to get sawdust on their shoes.

The theme of this meeting, as suggested by Bill's reminder postcard, was "Your Favorite Tool", and many folks brought some cool ones to show and talk about. Bill McDougall brought a sweet four iron sash plane, but we all agreed that sharpening and aligning it would certainly be a chore. Scott Jordan, our resident garden expert brought with him a crisp Keen Kutter socket garden trowel. Joe Liebert brought an adze that had a smooth wooden-crotch handle and a manufacture's labels still on the blade. Dave Fessler, not to be out done by these fine tools brought 3 tools for show and tell. The first a Camera Lucinda, which is an unusual device used in drawing. A prism is used so that when the artist is looking at a scene, one eye is looking at the scene and the other is looking, through the prism, at a sheet of paper. This enables the artist to reproduce the scene accurately on the paper. The second interesting item was a very nice brass Traveller with an unusual star-like mechanism added to count the revolutions. Finally, Dave brought a bizarre Instructional Model Electronic Tester of some sort. We were never quite sure what the thing did, but it was certainly complex, with gears, windings and Bakelite looking straight from the post-Edison era (or maybe even the Edison era)!

We had the usual business meeting, enter twined with allot of tool stories and finally folks started to head for home. As always, I enjoyed every second of this tool meeting, and being the host was an honor.

## **HOSTS ARE NEEDED**

As always, the club is looking for hosts to help out at the RMTC meetings. In addition to coordinating the meeting itself, it is nice to have a meet in a place we haven't been before. If you know of a unique location that would hold 70 to 100 folks, give John Gilmore or one of the officers a call. We can also use someone to write up the happenings of the meeting for inclusion in the next Shavings, Sawdust & Splinters. If you want to be the scribe, let Dan Kimpton know.

### **February New Mexico Area Meeting**

**Dave and Connie Fessler's House, Albuquerque**

by Jason Fink

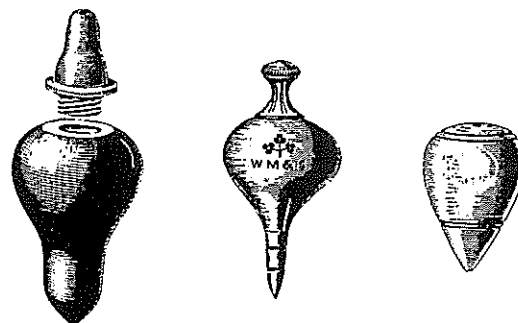
Unfortunately this is going to be one incredibly short tool meeting write-up. It was a disappointing chain of events that lead to me not being able to attend more than 10 min of this tool meeting that was augmented by Mr. Fessler's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday (he told me I gotta start calling him Mister, now that he has reached a respectable age). I knew I was in trouble when I awoke Saturday morning with a sick 4 year old on my hands and my wife off in Las Vegas. My oldest daughter Zoey, however, had made Dave a birthday card and she was adamant about delivering it at the meeting. We zipped down to the Fessler abode, one sick kid stuck in the car, made a quick pass thorough to deliver the card and greet the other tool folks (also a quick hello to guests Don and Pat Jordan, just down from Boulder). Then we were off, back to home where Zoey and I just sulked around for the rest of the afternoon.

I sure missed being there, better luck next time!

## **History of Hide Glue**

Nearly 4,000 years ago, the Egyptians were using hide glue for their furniture adhesive. This is proven by hairs found in Pharaoh's tombs and by stone carvings depicting the process of gluing different woods. Hide glue is still in use today for wood gluing and over the years much has been written about the manufacture and use of hide glue for hundreds of other adhesive applications. With the evolution of synthetic (ready to use) adhesives, hide glue has taken a lesser role in industry but has maintained a major role in repair and restoration of antique furniture, reproduction of period furniture, restoration, production and repair of musical instruments as well as numerous other applications.

Most of the hide glue literature was written from the mid 1800's to the mid 1900's, and unfortunately much of this literature has been lost or abandoned.



### **March Colorado Area Meeting**

**Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood**

March 3<sup>rd</sup>

by Dan Kimpton

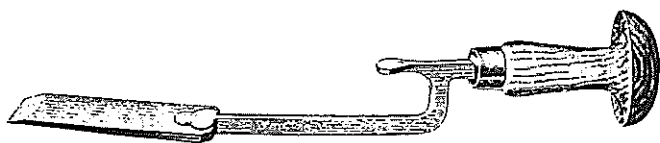
This year's annual journey to Red Rocks was hosted by Ed Rowland, Don Biays, Mark Koons, Stan McAlister and Bob Finch. There were lots of people in attendance as evidenced by the difficulty in finding a place to set up for tool sales shortly after the opening bell. Though it has been mentioned in the past, this was the first year I've noticed that the campus gendarmes were giving out tickets for illegal parking. About the only place that wasn't illegal was about a quarter mile away around the next building.

This was the first time that I can remember having a raffle at a Colorado area meet. It cost a buck to get a ticket and the winner was John Estock. He won what I believe was a Stanley #6C.

Jan Nelson of the Red Rocks Community College Technology department was there to see that we didn't get too rowdy. In appreciation of him allowing us to use the woodshop at Red Rocks for our meeting, the club gave him a nice plane.

There were many displays that members took an effort to create. Cliff Fales had many Hatter's rules including an ivory example. Bob Finch showed some of his recent acquisitions. Bill Baker had drill bits of all types including his recent find of an extension lip countersink bit by the Russell Jennings Mfg. Co. Grace Goss had a Jenkins cast iron seat like the kind on old tractors. (Grace's maiden name is Jenkins). Joe Helm had a Plow Plane and a mini brass plane. Stan McAlister had some new whittsits and recent acquisitions. Thanks again for all the wonderful displays.

There was a big estate auction along with the member's auction. Some of the tools went for a decent price with both the sellers and buyers thinking they came out on the short end. Must have been good.



### Welcome New Members

Mr. Frank Troy	Boulder, CO
Mr. J. Edward Schamberger	Ft. Collins, CO
Mr. Rolland Piazzoni	Colorado Springs, CO
Mr. William Hunter	Lakewood, CO
Mr. Andy Hoover	Littleton, CO
Mr. Ben Giltner	Boulder, CO
Mr. Robert Brown	Denver, CO
Mr. Myron Smith	Greeley, CO
Mr. Walter Stratman	Hildreth, NE

- history of the steam whistle
- various uses of steam whistles on locomotives, ships, factories, firehouse roofs, circuses
- the broad range of whistle manufactures, their histories and their product lines
- how to acquire, organize, and preserve a whistle collection
- how to repair and restore steam whistles
- how to blow steam whistles on steam or compressed air
- how a steam whistle actually works

### The Slide Rule

Simplified, Explained, and Illustrated for the Mechanical Trades

by Robert Riddell

Once more, Astragal Press has rescued an old and rare book from obscurity, allowing for the broad circulation of information previously limited to the select few who could afford access. This book, first published in 1881, was written about the use of the first standard slide rule made in the United States: a Mannheim-type slide rule made by Stephens Co., a major rule manufacturer.

### BOOK REVIEWERS NEEDED

The Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors has been given three review copies of new books from the fine folks at The Astragal Press. If any member would like to get one of these books and write a review for an upcoming issue of the Shavings, Sawdust & Splinters, please contact Dan Kimpton at (303) 773-3463, or by email at [kimpton@uswestmail.net](mailto:kimpton@uswestmail.net).

### Carriage and Wagon Axles for Horse-Drawn Vehicles

Compiled by The Carriage Museum of America and Edited by Don Peloubet, Wheelwright

Like its companion, Wheelmaking, this book is a compilation of articles on axel making taken from late 19<sup>th</sup> century journals published in America for the carriage industry. The articles are divided into ten sections: the first is a long, general chapter on the development of axle-making, followed by sections on axle setting, axel manufactures, patent axles, ball/roller bearing axles, axle types, lubrications, repair, and tools and equipment.

### The Engine's Moan

American Steam Whistles  
by Edward A. Fagen

Ed Fagen has put together a broadly researched, eloquently written, witty book which is the only one on the subject. In includes comprehensive, illustrated chapters on:

All three books are available from

### Astragal Press

5 Cold Hill Road Suite 12

PO Box 239

Mendham, NJ 07945-0239

(866) 543-3045 [astragalpress@attglobal.net](mailto:astragalpress@attglobal.net)

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are many opportunities to help and participate with your **Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors**. Contact one of the officers listed in this issue if you want to volunteer.

- Annual Meeting
- Historian
- Mailer
- Host
- Greeter
- Auction Staff
- Meeting Location
- Label/Name Tags
- Meeting Reporter/Photographer
- Nomination/Election
- Public Relations



# Collecting and Selling Tools Using eBay

by Jamie Swan

*Editor's note: The following article came from The Workbench, the newsletter of the Long Island Antique Tool Collectors Association. I thought it might be interesting for our members.*

I know that many of you are involved in buying or selling tools on eBay. Some of you are very experienced and some may just be getting your feet wet. I have been involved for a couple of years and I thought I'd share some of the techniques that seem to work for me. The first rule is that eBay is unpredictable. You may follow a particular logic for buying or selling and have the deal play out in a way that you never expected. I think it is best to "bet with the odds." In other words if you observe that most auctions usually play out in a particular way then it is logical to expect that the next one will probably play out the same way. The following rules are based on what I have observed to happen more often than not.

## BUYERS:

### Search misspellings:

The classic example of this is Stanley spelled Stanly. You should familiarize yourself with all the various functions of ebay's search engine so that you can find good items that other collectors might miss. The bidding can be less competitive on these items.

### Scrutinize the item:

If you have found an item that you are considering bidding on, do your best to be sure that the item is what you think it is. Look at the picture(s) very carefully. Read the description over several times. Ask the seller questions until you are satisfied. Rating condition is very subjective. Try to evaluate the seller's ability to rate the condition of the piece.

### Scrutinize the seller:

Look at the seller's feedback. No matter how many positive feedbacks a seller has; if they have more than a couple of negatives beware. Read the negatives and then look at the feedback of the person that left the negative feedback. Try to get an idea who was really at fault. If you ask the seller a question and you receive a prompt concise reply that is a very good sign. If the seller seems a little shaky then you have to decide how badly you want the item and if it is worth the risk. Usually the risk is pretty minimal. Most transactions are completed without problems.

### Don't catch auction fever:

People get carried away at auctions and pay way too much for an item because someone is trying to take it

away from them. Decide what you are willing to pay for the item and stick to it.

### Trust your own evaluation of an item:

Most people really like to have other people's endorsement of an item before they are convinced to bid. If they see that an item already has 10 bids on it then they think that it must be a good item. Don't fall into that. Go by your own evaluation of the item.

This really comes into play when the item has a "buy it now". I often see good items that have a very reasonable "buy it now" and nobody has the confidence to pull the trigger. If it were a regular auction with no "buy it now" the item would get a ton of bids and sell for considerably more.

### Find out shipping costs:

Be sure that you know what it is going to cost for you to get the item to home. Some sellers charge packing fees that are very high. Don't assume that the fee includes insurance. If the item is very large or heavy then it is a big advantage if the item is close enough that you can pick it up. I had a customer who took that to the extreme. He drove to Long Island from Kansas to pick up a metal lathe. I shouldn't talk. I have driven round trip in one day both to Buffalo to pick up an antique sofa and to New Hampshire to pick up a South Bend shaper.

### Don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes!:

Only bid on an item at the very end. This is called sniping. If you bid earlier you are only increasing the odds that you will be outbid or increasing the price that you will have to pay. Bidding early stimulates the "feeding frenzy". If you are not going to be home or awake when the auction is ending then use esnipe.com or a sniping software. The only exception to this rule is if you have trouble controlling your "auction fever". Some people just place their maximum proxy bid when they first see the item and then put it out of their mind.

### Go the extra penny:

When you place your bid always add a penny or some small odd numbered amount to the maximum that you are willing to pay.

Often that penny can make the difference between winning and losing.

## SELLERS:

### 10 day auctions:

Spend the 10 cents to run your auction for 10 days and be sure that it runs through two weekends. You usually get more bids on weekends. Also have your auction

end at a time of day when the maximum number of people can be at their computer screen. Be sure to consider the time zones.

**Search words:**

Be sure that your title includes important search words. Try to imagine yourself searching and what words you might search. Include important search words in your description. Many people search "titles and descriptions". Ebay prohibits "key word spamming". That is using a word that does not describe your item but is intentionally put in the title to attract bidders. Example:

"FULTON JACK PLANE - NOT STANLEY". Ebay will sometimes cancel your auction for doing that.

**Category:**

Be sure to list your item in the best category. This is especially important for odd-ball items.

**Fast pictures:**

Be sure to keep the file size of your images as small as possible. The auction has to download fast or people will click off. The number of photos should be kept to a minimum too. If the item requires lots of photos do it with hot links. Hone your photography and photo editing skills to make the item look as attractive as possible.

**First the bad news:**

Always tell what the item's flaws are in the beginning of the description. People will tend to minimize them.

**Under describe:**

When rating the condition of the item, err on the conservative side. You will make more money in the long run and it will keep you out of trouble. You don't want somebody demanding their money back because the item is not as good as they expected. Also, when many of your feedback say "item better then described" that makes people all the more confident to bid.

**Blow your own horn:**

If the item is good tell your audience about it in no uncertain terms. Don't "let the pictures do the talking".

**State shipping costs:**

Tell people up front exactly what it is going to cost for them to get the item. This removes another obstacle and increases the likelihood that they will bid. If the item is heavy enough that the cost will be affected by the distance, be sure to state the shipping weight and your zip code in the description. Also invite potential bidders to email you with their zip code for a shipping quote. Respond quickly.

**Avoid negativity:**

Don't put a bunch of negative boiler plate in your description about how you are going to handle deadbeat bidders etc. Most people are honest and don't like being unjustly accused. Plus, it makes you

sound like a cantankerous old grump who will be difficult to deal with. Set a pleasant tone. Deal with the deadbeats later.

**Start low, no reserve:**

Start the auction with a very low price. Each little bid feeds the frenzy. If at all possible, don't use a reserve. I am convinced that it discourages bidding. Never start the auction at the lowest amount that you will be happy with. The odds are that is what you will get.

**Don't use "buy it now":**

The best argument for using "buy it now" is that if you only have one person that wants an item then you won't have a competitive auction and the person can "steal" the item. On certain types of items this can be a logical strategy; but on old tools it doesn't work too well. If there is only one person on all of ebay that wants the item, it must not be a very good item.

**Ebay is an indoor sport:**

Certain times of the year are clearly better times to sell particular types of items on ebay but in general I have found winter to be the best.

**Customer service:**

Take good care of your customers and build your feedback. Your good reputation will result in more bidders in future auctions.

**Learn HTML:**

Simple HTML tags can make your auction much more attractive and readable. This is merchandising; just like at the mall.

**Accept PayPal:**

People want convenience. Accept as many different forms of payment as you can.

**Ship internationally:**

It is not that hard to ship to other countries. Sometimes being willing to do that can make a big difference. Once I had a rare bicycle listed but I had not clicked "will ship to all countries". Early in the auction a nice collector told me that I was making a big mistake. I took his advice and added a note to the description that I was willing to ship it anywhere. The bike sold for \$2000 to a Japanese collector. The highest bid from a domestic bidder was \$700!

For almost every one of these guidelines I can sight an example of the exact opposite thing working or happening in a particular auction, but I still think it is best to bet with the odds.

Happy eBaying, Jamie Swan

*Jamie Swan is the Vice President of the Long Island Tool Collectors Association and a member of Early American Industries Association.*



## TOOLS & TRADES SAMPLER WORKSHOPS OFFER UNIQUE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

For a special learning adventure this summer, come join the **EARLY AMERICAN INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION TRADES & THEIR TOOLS WORKSHOP SAMPLER 2002** at **Eastfield Village, NY** from **MONDAY, JULY 29 through FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2002.**

There is a big difference between knowing how things are done and knowing how to do things. While you obviously cannot master a trade in one day, these workshops emphasize a hands on approach in which you take up the tools and materials to produce something during the course of the workshop, most often something to take home.

The schedule of workshops includes tinsmithing, splint basket making, blacksmithing, stone cutting, letterpress printing, slate roofing, cabinetmaking, historic paneling and wooden moldings. All instructors are both masters of their trades and experienced in conducting workshops.

The work day consists of two - three-hour sessions from 9-12 and 1-4, allowing an hour for lunch in between. A buffet sandwich lunch is provided in one of the taverns each day and is included in the registration fee. At the end of the day, participants may take a dip in the spring-fed pond and visit the buildings in the village. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings there are tavern dinners, sumptuous meals cooked on an open hearth, also included in the registration fee. On other nights participants are on their own for dinner, with various options including a cook-out in the village or expeditions to nearby restaurants. There are always historic pastimes and camaraderie in the tavern after dinner.

Options for accommodations include a number of reasonably priced motels in the vicinity. A list will be provided with registration material. Those with campers are welcome to bring them to the Village. There is limited space in the village buildings for those who would like to experience an early 19th century life style. There is no charge, but those staying in the village will be

expected to participate in village tasks such as drawing water, bringing in fire wood, and cleaning up.

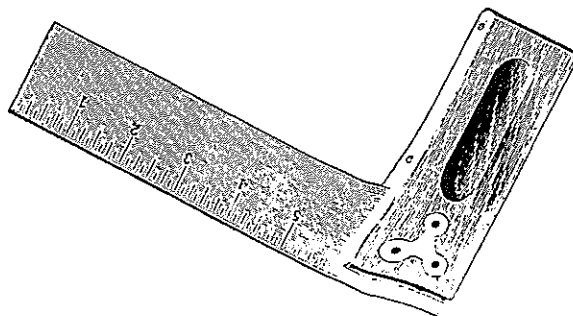
Eastfield Village was established by EAIA member Don Carpentier in East Nassau, New York, in 1971. It comprises a collection of late eighteenth and early nineteenth-century buildings moved from various sites in upstate New York. They include a towering Greek Revival church, a thirteen room 18<sup>th</sup> century tavern and many smaller buildings devoted to the individual trades, including carpentry, tinsmithing, printing, blacksmithing and shoemaking. All house one of the greatest private antique and tool collections ever assembled. The Eastfield Village annual series of Early American Trades & Historic Preservations Workshops is now in its 26th year.

Registration for the program is only \$550 and includes the daily workshops, lunch, and two dinners. Spaces in the workshops are limited to 8 participants each except for printing which is limited to 4 and will be filled in the order in which completed applications are received. Applications must be accompanied by a 50% deposit per person, not refundable after July 8. Final payment must be made by July 8. Anyone interested in registering for one or more workshops by the day may make their wishes known, a decision will be made after July 8 based on available space.

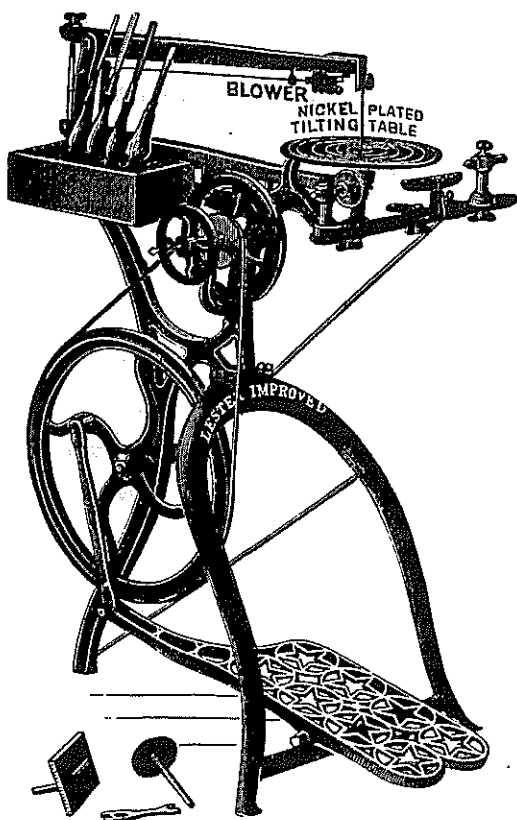
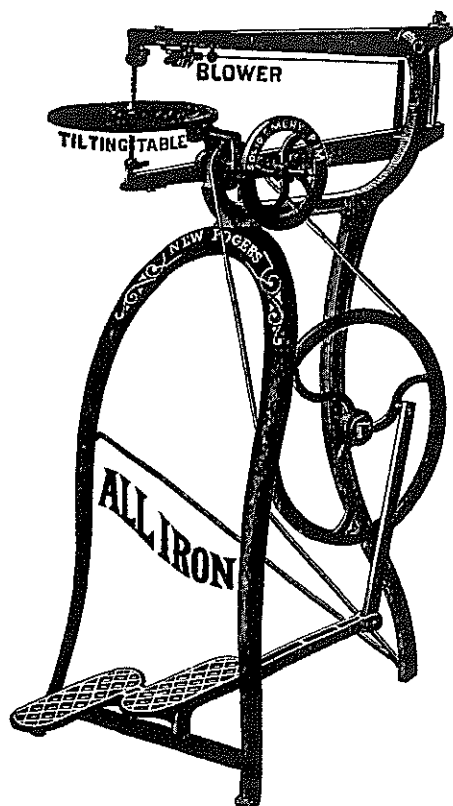
For an application or questions, phone Elton Hall at (508) 993-9578 or e-mail [EAIA@fastdial.net](mailto:EAIA@fastdial.net).

# # #

Early American Industries Association is an international non-profit group founded in 1933 providing a forum for anyone interested in early American technology, its roots, and its products. Membership in EAIA is open to any person or organization sharing its interests and purposes. [www.EAIAinfo.org](http://www.EAIAinfo.org)







## CLASSIFIED ADS

*RMTC members in good standing may submit ads for sale or wanted items of interest to other members.*

**Wanted:** 4" crescent style wrenches, JC Penney, I pay \$70; Keen Kutter-Simmons, I pay \$200.

**For Sale:** Sargent #2, Lever Cap (marked) \$125; Sargent #2 Blade, not marked, \$20; #2 size beaded knob, \$15.

Contact Emery L. Goad, telephone 1-888-889-3340, email: [kisinc@swbell.net](mailto:kisinc@swbell.net)

**Wanted:** Antique dental & medical instruments. Prompt payment in American dollars. Bill McDougall, 4020 Grande Dr. NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87107. Phone 505-344-9272

**Wanted:** All those that have boxes/cans of drill bits. I am looking for bits for the post drill press, and the center, lip, shell, gimlet, nose and spoon bits. Also I am looking for a "Charles Robin's Bung reamer/Bit" or info. If one was ever made, the patent date is Jan 9 1889 #395,920. Please contact Bill Baker, (303) 343-3607 or email: [farrar3@earthlink.net](mailto:farrar3@earthlink.net)

**Wanted for Research:** Examples, information, advertising, etc. of Spiril (& Ratchet) Screwdrivers. Please contact Cliff Fales at 1435 S. Urban Way, Lakewood, CO 80228. (303) 987-3849 / [cfales@idcomm.com](mailto:cfales@idcomm.com)

Hello fellow collectors, I've been doing some Spring cleaning and have two items for sale that may be useful for the living history season coming up. I mentioned these at the Red Rocks meeting in March but it seems it was hard to hear me and was mostly misunderstood so this will make it clearer.

- Buffalo Forge Works farm forge. It is a larger forge, about three by five feet with a blower of the same make. Everything is there and in good working order. The first \$500 takes it.

- Shepherd's stove. At least that's what I hear them called. It's a two burner stove and in good shape. Unlike many, the main body is cast iron and not sheet steel. I'm asking \$200 for it.

Please drop me a line if you are interested. I look forward to seeing you at a meeting sometime this summer,

Rex Rideout ([rrideout@mines.edu](mailto:rrideout@mines.edu))